

**LENT 4**

**MARCH 10, 2021**

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**Order Of Worship**

**HYMN 449: Children of the Heavenly Father**

**1 Children of the heav'nly Father safely in his bosom gather;  
Nestling bird or star in heaven such a refuge ne'er was given.**

**2 God his own doth tend and nourish; In his holy courts they flourish,  
From all evil things he spares them; in his mighty arms he bears them.**

**3 Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever;  
Unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.**

**4 Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.**

**RESPONSIVE READING**

**Pastor:** O Lord, open my lips.

**Congregation:** And my mouth shall declare your praise.

**Pastor:** Hasten to save me, O God.

**Congregation:** O Lord, come quickly to help me.

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**Congregation:** And also with you.

**Pastor:** Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of evening worship. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Congregation:** Amen.

**THE PSALM: Psalm 2**

**Pastor:** Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD and against his Anointed One.

**CONGREGATION:** “Let us break their chains,” they say,  
“and throw off their fetters.”

**Pastor:** The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them.  
Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath,  
saying,

**CONGREGATION:** “I have installed my King on Zion, my  
holy hill.”

**Pastor:** I will proclaim the decree of the LORD. He said to me, “You  
are my Son; today I have become your Father. Ask of me, and I will  
make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your  
possession.

**CONGREGATION:** You will rule them with an iron scepter;  
you will dash them to pieces like pottery.”

**Pastor:** Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the  
earth Serve the LORD with fear and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the  
Son, lest he be angry and you be destroyed in your way, for his wrath  
can flare up in a moment.

**CONGREGATION:** Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

**Pastor:** Lord God, you anointed your Son to be King for the sake of your church.  
Help us, as members of his kingdom, to serve him faithfully and to come to the full  
knowledge of his grace and glory, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Congregation:** Amen.

**THE PASSION HISTORY:** He Suffered Under Pontius Pilate

**HYMN 114 (Verses 1-3):** Christ, the Life of All the Living

1 Christ, the Life of all the living, Christ, the Death of death, our foe,  
Who, thyself for me once giving To the darkest depths of woe—

**Through thy suff'rings, death, and merit I eternal life inherit.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto thee.**

**2 Thou, ah, thou hast taken on thee Bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;  
Pain and scorn were heaped upon thee, O thou sinless Son of God!  
Thus didst thou my soul deliver from the bonds of sin forever.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto thee.**

**3 Thou has borne the smiting only That my wounds might all be whole;  
Thou hast suffered, sad and lonely, Rest to give my weary soul;  
Yea, the curse of God enduring, Blessing unto me securing.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto thee.**

**SERMON TEXT – Matthew 26:57-68**

**Hands of Injustice**

57 Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the teachers of the law and the elders had assembled. 58 But Peter followed him at a distance, right up to the courtyard of the high priest. He entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome. 59 The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. 60 But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward 61 and declared, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.' " 62 Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, "Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?" 63 But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." 64 "Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied. "But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven." 65 Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy. 66 What do you think?" "He is worthy of death," they answered. 67 Then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him 68 and said, "Prophecy to us, Christ. Who hit you?"

**HYMN 116: In the Hour of Trial**

**1 In the hour of trial, Jesus, plead for me  
Lest by base denial I unworthy be.  
When you see me waver, with a look recall,  
Nor for fear or favor ever let me fall.**

**2 With forbidden pleasures should this vain world charm  
Or its tempting treasures spread to work me harm,  
Bring to my remembrance sad Gethsemane  
Or, in darker semblance, Cross-crowned Calvary.**

**3 Should your mercy send me sorrow, toil, or woe,  
Or should pain attend me on my path below,  
Grant that I my never fail your cross to view;  
Grant that I may ever cast my care on you.**

**4 When my life is ending, though in grief or pain,  
When my body changes back to dust again,  
On your truth relying, through that mortal strife,  
Jesus, take me, dying, to eternal life.**

### **PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

### **OFFERING**

**The offering will be received as you are ushered out after the service in the fellowship hall so that offering plates are not passed. The offering plate is located next to the bulletin table in the fellowship hall.**

### **PRAYER**

### **BLESSING**

### **HYMN 588 (Verses 1, 2, 6, 7): Abide with Me**

**1 Abide with me; fast falls the even-tide.  
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!**

**2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;**

**Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away.  
Change and decay in all around I see;  
O thou who changest not, abide with me!**

**6 I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still if thou abide with me.**

**7 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.  
Heav'n's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!**